

Message Text

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ACTION AID-05

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FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

TO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8515

UNCLAS USUN 5975

ATTENTION: MCCLURE - AID/FDRC

ATTN: CARLIN - GENEVA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UN, SWEL

SUBJ: STRENGTHENING OF UNDRO'S COORDINATION OPERATIONS

REF: STATE 264656

1. AS YOU KNOW, 29TH GA HAS ADOPTED RESOLUTION WHICH WOULD STRENGTHEN UNDRO'S COORDINATION OPERATIONS. US HAS PLEDGED UP TO \$750,000 TO COVER SUBSTANTIALLY ALL OF THE FIRST YEAR'S COSTS OF THE EXPANDED OPERATION, WHICH INCLUDES INITIAL SET-UP COSTS PLUS ONE YEAR'S OPERATIONAL COSTS. FIRST STEP IN THIS UNDERTAKING IS TO FIELD A SMALL TEAM OF EXPERTS WHO WOULD IDENTIFY PRECISE NEEDS OF UNDRO IN THE COORDINATION AREA, PREPARE A BUDGET FOR BOTH SET-UP AND OPERATIONAL COSTS AND PREPARE A TIME-PHASED PLAN TO MOVE UNDRO FROM ITS PRESENT SITUATION TO THE ENVISIONED SITUATION WITH RESPECT TO COORDINATION.

2. WE UNDERSTAND THAT BERKOL, WHILE IN NEW YORK FOR THE DEBATE ON THE UNDRO ITEM IN THE 29TH GA, DISCUSSED WITH UNDER SECRETARY GENERAL DAVIDSON HIS (BERKOL'S) IDEAS OF THE MODALITIES OF THE SMALL EXPERT TEAM. BERKOL ALSO DISCUSSED THESE MODALITIES WITH AID'S FOREIGN DISASTER RELIEF COORDINATOR, WHO IN TURN HAS MADE PRELIMINARY ARRANGEMENTS TO FIELD A TEAM COMPRISED OF HIMSELF (MCCLURE), COL. LOPEZ DE LEON, UNCLASSIFIED

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A FILIPINO EXPERT IN DISASTER MATTERS, AND MARCEL DOUARD,

A FRENCH NATIONAL, ALSO AN EXPERT IN DISASTER MATTERS.

3. DISCUSSIONS WITH DAVIDSON IN NEW YORK INDICATE THAT THE BERKOL PLAN FOR THREE MAN TEAM IS SATISFACTORY TO THE APPROPRIATE UN AUTHORITIES, BUT THAT IN ORDER TO PROCEED IT IS NECESSARY THAT BERKOL FORMALLY PROPOSE HIS PLAN TO NEW YORK. HE SHOULD SEND A LETTER TO WALDHEIM (COPY TO DAVIDSON) OUTLINING HIS SCHEME, WHICH WOULD INCLUDE TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR SMALL THREE MAN TEAM, TEAM COMPOSITION, ESTIMATED DURATION OF TEAM'S WORK AND COST ESTIMATES. HE SHOULD ALSO DISCUSS SITUATION WITH JOE BARBOSA, DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES UNOG. BARBOSA SHOULD SET IN MOTION NECESSARY DOCUMENTATION FOR TEAM TO PROCEED, SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY OF FUNDING.

4. IT IS IMPORTANT THAT BERKOL GET MOVING ON THE NECESSARY DOCUMENTATION ASAP. WOULD APPRECIATE GENEVA ALERTING BERKOL IMMEDIATELY THESE REQUIREMENTS.

5. FYI. USUN FEELS IT IMPORTANT THAT IN DISCUSSING WITH BERKOL AND IN GENERAL DISCUSSIONS UNDERSTAND THAT EFFORT BE MADE TO HAVE INITIATIVE APPEAR AS UN AFFAIR WITH US CONTRIBUTING AND NOT US INITIATIVE TO GET UN TO DO THINGS THAT ARE IN INTERESTS OF US.
BENNETT

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